

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the:
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To:

Madderns
1st Floor Wolf Blass House
64 Hindmarsh Square
ADELAIDE SA 5000

PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

Date of mailing
(day/month/year) **1 NOV 2004**

Applicant's or agent's file reference
P23754AAL:KG

FOR FURTHER ACTION
See paragraph 2 below

International application No.
PCT/AU2004/001345

International filing date (day/month/year)
1 October 2004

Priority date (day/month/year)
3 October 2003

International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC
Int. Cl. ⁷ F16B 2/10; B25B 5/04, 5/10; F16M 13/02

Applicant
MICRONIX PTY LTD et al

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- ☒ Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- ☐ Box No. II Priority
- ☐ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- ☐ Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- ☒ Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- ☐ Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- ☐ Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- ☐ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. **FURTHER ACTION**

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the IPEA/AU
AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE
PO BOX 200, WODEN ACT 2606, AUSTRALIA
E-mail address: pct@ipaaustralia.gov.au
Facsimile No. (02) 6285 3929

Authorized Officer
JEFFREY CARL
Telephone No. (02) 6283 2543

Best Available Copy

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/AU2004/001345

Box No. I Basis of the opinion

1. With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
☐ This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 - a. type of material
☐ a sequence listing
☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing
 - b. format of material
☐ in written format
☐ in computer readable form
 - c. time of filing/furnishing
☐ contained in the international application as filed.
☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

Best Available Copy

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/AU2004/001345

Best Available Copy

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims 12	YES
	Claims 1-11, 13	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims 12	YES
	Claims 1-11, 13	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims 1-13	YES
	Claims	NO

2. Citations and explanations:

The following documents identified in the International Search Report have been considered for the purposes of this opinion:

(i) US 998248	(iv) US 457997
(ii) US 5334354	(v) US 311487
(iii) US 703326	

Novelty (N) and Inventive Step (IS) Claims 1-11, 13

Claim 1: All of the features defined in this claim are explicitly disclosed in each of citations (i)-(v). For example, in citation (i), there is disclosed a hand vise or clamp including two opposed jaws (1, 2) pivotally joined by pin (7) at one end. Spring (30) biases the free ends of jaws (1, 2) apart and threaded rod (17) is pivotally mounted to one jaw and passes through the other jaw. Thumb nut (21) screws onto one end of rod (17) and adjusts the separation of the jaws against the bias of spring (30).

Claims 2-11, 13: The minor features added by each of these claims are also explicitly disclosed in one or more of citations (i)-(v).